## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	)	•
Morihisa SHIOYA	)	Group Art No. TBA
Serial No.: TBA	)	Examiner: TBA
Filed: March 24, 2004	)	Docket No: 000407.00028

For: VENDING MACHINE

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Applications Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant submits herewith Form PTO/SB/08, identifying information for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of the item of information is enclosed.

Applicant does not waive any rights to take appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed document should it be applied as a reference against the claims of the present application.

Consideration of the cited information and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-noted application are respectfully requested. Should the Patent and Trademark Office determine that a fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: March 24, 2004

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Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO					Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Application Number	ТВА			
				Filing Date	March 24, 2004			
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor	Morihisa Shioya					
		Art Unit	TBA					
	(use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	ТВА		
\	Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	000407.00028		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevar Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		Cited Document		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )				
		JP - 2000-259939	09-22-2000	Nakamura et al.		Abst

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	·	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.